

religious extremism. On these points, the recommendations in the report include that:

- ▶ states amend penal codes so that victim-centred definitions of rape are broad enough to cover the full range of sexual violence and sensitive enough to respond to the possible “consent” of the victim;
- ▶ sentencing structures be amended to ensure that perpetrators of violence are duly punished and that perpetrators of aggravated crimes receive severe sentences;
- ▶ states criminalize sexual harassment;
- ▶ legislation and institutions related to equality in educational institutions and the workplace make provision for combatting sexual harassment;
- ▶ organizations and institutions providing education and employment ensure that women victims of sexual harassment receive a proper hearing and that there is due process of law;
- ▶ states assess rules of evidence from a gender perspective and revise evidentiary rules where laws discriminate against women — e.g., laws requiring corroboration because the victim is a woman or those that allow past sexual conduct to be revealed in court even though it has no relevance to the case being heard;
- ▶ states provide legal mechanisms for protecting a rape victim’s identity and privacy during investigations and prosecutions;
- ▶ judicial constructions such as corroboration and the “honour defence” be reviewed and legislated against if they discriminate against or demean women;
- ▶ states implement gender-sensitization and awareness-raising programs at all levels of the police and judiciary;
- ▶ states incorporate changes in school curricula to create attitudes to help combat violence against women;
- ▶ states incorporate mandatory gender-sensitization training in medical and legal education;
- ▶ states implement gender-sensitization and awareness training for medical personnel working with victims of rape and other forms of violence against women, with particular attention given to training for state forensic pathologists;
- ▶ states, in collaboration with non-governmental organizations, allocate funds for victim support services;
- ▶ restrictions on access to abortion be lifted in cases of rape;
- ▶ states take steps towards widening women’s access to safe and legal abortions;
- ▶ the international community begin a dialogue aimed at establishing new international standards with regard to trafficking and prostitution;
- ▶ states initiate special efforts to address international trafficking in women, including through regular exchange of information among police and the judiciary in countries affected by such trafficking;
- ▶ receiving states revise immigration policies to prevent vulnerable women from being doubly marginalized;
- ▶ procedures be put in place to ensure that traffickers cannot act with impunity because of the immediate deportation of trafficked women;
- ▶ social policies be constructed to ensure that marginalized women are given avenues other than prostitution for their vocations and livelihood;
- ▶ states ensure that police and the judiciary are sensitized to issues and responsive to the magnitude of the social problem, especially as this relates to denigrating attitudes that may hinder criminal prosecution of those who traffic in women;
- ▶ states, in collaboration with non-governmental organizations, ensure that special services are available to women victims of trafficking and prostitution;
- ▶ states strengthen programs related to health education, including awareness-raising on HIV/AIDS;
- ▶ health facilities be responsive to the general needs of women victims with regard to sexually transmitted diseases;
- ▶ states develop a mechanism to combat complicity by police and immigration officers in the process of trafficking and forced prostitution of women;
- ▶ all states ratify the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
- ▶ sending states establish migrant desks at embassies or consulates to assist migrant workers and particularly those who are victims of violence;
- ▶ sending states implement orientation programs for migrant workers, including basic language skills, an introduction to the culture in which they will be living, and information on what to do in situations of violence;
- ▶ receiving states prosecute employers who abuse women migrant workers;
- ▶ receiving states, in collaboration with non-governmental organizations, ensure that shelters and counselling services are available for women migrant workers who are victims of violence;
- ▶ receiving states combat racist laws and attitudes that dehumanize immigrant populations;
- ▶ states adhere to commitments in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and not invoke custom, religion or tradition to justify violence against women;
- ▶ laws which prevent effective prosecution of rape and domestic violence sanctioned by religious interpretations be repealed;
- ▶ states ensure that traditional practices and rituals in the community which violate women’s human rights are eliminated;
- ▶ all violations of women’s reproductive health be recognized and eliminated;
- ▶ states adopt legislation regulating prenatal sex determination to eliminate discriminatory abortions of female fetuses;